

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

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To Whom It May Concern:

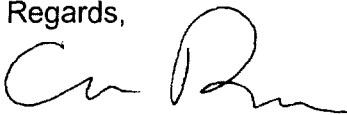
This issue should concern everyone! I am writing in response to docket number 98P-0151/CP1. Outlawing the selling of downed animals, most often cows, is really the only option we have. This will reduce the cruelty to animals, as well as increase the safety of the consumer. Downed animals are treated very poorly, in order for the seller to get the most money for them. A live cow, no matter how alive, sells for a much higher dollar value. In order to get the cows to the slaughterhouse 'alive', the farmer will abuse the cow in order to get them there. There are no regulations on this sort of behavior, so the farmer will use any means possible. This includes kicking, dragging, or shocking with cattle prods. This is no way to handle any being on this planet, especially a defenseless dieing one.

These downed cattle also pose a huge health risk to the consumer. They are downed for a reason, and illness of some sort. Many of the illnesses and infections that the cows are afflicted with, can have devastating affects on the unsuspecting public. The affects include, but are not limited to, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease".

By eliminating downed cattle from the market place is a win/win situation. 90% of the downed animals are afflicted with preventable illnesses. By eliminating the selling of downed animals, will increase the care taken by the farmer. We will have healthier cows, and therefore healthier American meat eaters.

I implore you to hear my words, as well as the voices of many others, whom wish for the selling of downed animals to be stopped! Thank you for your time.

Regards,



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98P-0151

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